

**Cal/EPA Innovation Initiative
Environmental Management System Project
California Protocol**

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This document (*California Protocol*) lists questions that supplement those appearing in the Environmental Management System (EMS) protocols developed by the University of North Carolina in conjunction with other stakeholders. The questions in this document are to be completed for each of the companies/organizations participating in the California Environmental Protection Agency's (Cal/EPA) Innovation Initiative EMS Pilot Project.

To address the requirements of Assembly Bill 1102 (Stats. 99, Ch. 65), the information collected with this *California Protocol* will be used in conjunction with data collected using the University of North Carolina protocols. Specifically, Public Resources Code Section 71045 et seq. authorizes the Cal/EPA to conduct pilot projects to determine whether and how the use of an EMS:

- increases public health and environmental protection; and
- provides better public information than existing regulatory requirements.

This *California Protocol* is expected to be completed one time for each of the pilot project participants. Further, it is expected that this protocol will be completed after the pilot has begun to implement its EMS.

1.0 Emergency Preparedness

1.1. How is emergency preparedness (e.g. Hazardous Material Business Plan) integrated into your EMS?

1.2. How has your EMS improved your emergency preparedness program and how do you measure these improvements?

1.3. In what ways, if any, does your emergency preparedness program exceed regulatory requirements?

1.4. Since implementing your EMS, have you experienced a decrease in emergency incidents that required a response from the fire department or hazardous materials unit? Please report number of incidents for baseline and post EMS years.

Baseline (3 years prior to EMS): year 1 _____, year 2 _____, year 3 _____

Post EMS: year 1 _____, year 2 _____, year 3 _____

2.0. Environmental Performance

2.1. Please identify any environmental performance objectives and targets that relate to regulated aspects or impacts and the extent to which they exceed regulatory requirements.

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2.2. Please identify any environmental performance objectives and targets that relate to non-regulated aspects.

2.3. For regulated aspects or impacts, please identify any change in environmental performance (emissions, discharge, waste) and/or practices (monitoring, training, and procedures) resulting from your EMS.

2.4. For non-regulated aspects or impacts, please identify changes in environmental impacts (emissions, discharge, waste) and practices (monitoring, training, and procedures) resulting from your EMS.

3.0. Pollution Prevention

3.1 How did implementation of the EMS affect pollution prevention activities at your facility?

3.2. What pollution prevention activities were in place prior to implementing your EMS?

3.3. What motivated you to establish your original pollution prevention activities?

3.4. Describe any mechanisms you have developed for sharing pollution prevention techniques or other benefits of your EMS with suppliers, customers, the community, or others and whether these are a result of your EMS.

4.0. Continual Improvement

4.1. How do you measure continual improvement? (suggests add: in environmental performance)

Please list management system improvement measures:

Please list environmental performance improvement measures:

4.2. Please describe this process and the types of changes that have been identified.

4.3. What type of continual improvement process existed prior to implementing your EMS?

4.4. If improvement is not shown in a designated area, what is the response?

5.0. Employee Involvement

5.1. Please describe changes in employee awareness and involvement in environmental improvements since implementing your EMS. How do you measure changes in employee awareness?

5.2. What information is shared with employees (audit results, root cause analysis, etc.)?

5.3. How is the information shared? (e.g., newsletters, web page).

6.0. Regulatory Innovations

6.1. Please identify any opportunities that an EMS presents for improving the regulatory process (e.g., consolidated information reporting).

6.2. Please describe any regulatory barriers for improving environmental performance.

6.3. Please provide any suggestions that may reduce or remove regulatory barriers for improving environmental performance.

7.0. Supply Chain

7.1. If you encourage your suppliers to use EMSs, do you verify their EMS activities and if so, how?

7.2. Please describe whether and how others in your supply chain, or your customers, influence your company in regards to implementation of an EMS.

7.3. Please describe how you have incorporated other environmentally preferable measures into your supply chain (e.g., green purchasing, education or mentoring).

8.0. Quantity of Information

8.1. What information about your EMS is available to the general public?

- ☐ All records are made available.
- ☐ Specific Information is made available. Please identify.
 - ☐ policy statement
 - ☐ environmental aspects
 - ☐ environmental impacts
 - ☐ objectives and targets
 - ☐ operation and procedures
 - ☐ compliance information
 - ☐ hazardous waste generation data
 - ☐ air emission data
 - ☐ water discharge data
 - ☐ resource consumption data: energy, water, raw materials
 - ☐ solid waste generation data
 - ☐ other environmental information. Please specify:

8.2. Where is information on your EMS available to the public?

- ☐ web site
- ☐ public relations department
- ☐ newsletter
- ☐ annual report
- ☐ other, please describe

8.3. What environmental information do you make available to the public that is required to be reported to environmental agencies? Where is this information available?

8.4. What environmental information do you make available to the public that is not required to be reported to environmental agencies? Where is this information available?

8.5. How has your EMS changed the way you communicate with the public or public agencies on environmental issues?

8.6. How has the sharing of environmental information changed the way your customers view you?

8.7. What are your regulatory requirements for sharing environmental information with the public (Prop. 65, Community Right to Know, Air Toxic “Hot Spots”, etc.)?

8.8. How has your participation in the Cal/EPA EMS Working Groups, or other community forums, affected you EMS and the way in which you view stakeholder participation?

9.0. Negative Consequences of an EMS

9.1. In your experience, what are some of the disadvantages of EMS implementation?

9.2. Has implementing an EMS caused any negative consequences in environmental performance?

9.3. Has the implementation of an EMS adversely impacted your organization’s economic performance? If so, how?

10.0 Positive Consequences of an EMS

10.1. Please describe any unexpected, positive results from implementing your EMS?
